

Conservation Security Program Screening Questions

The Conservation Security Program (CSP) financially rewards private land managers who are conserving and enhancing natural resources on their land. To be eligible for CSP, at minimum, you must show that you are managing your farm to enhance soil health and water quality. The conservation activities that address these resource concerns will vary depending on your farm's slope, climate, soil texture and other characteristics.

Generally, if you are maintaining and improving soil fertility, reducing soil erosion, managing water use and improving water quality, you have taken the first steps for a successful CSP contract. In addition, you need to be willing to pursue additional conservation enhancements. Below are examples of conservation activities that, if applicable to your operation, must be completed and documented in your application to be eligible.

Cropland

Consider this checklist. If applicable to your operation, do you currently...

- Rotate your crops?
- Control erosion or soil loss?
- Manage farm operations to protect water sources?
- Routinely test soils and apply fertilizers accordingly?
- Use integrated pest management (IPM) strategies, field scouting, precision spray/low volume application, ect?
- Keep records of fertilizer and pesticide applications?
- If irrigated, schedule applications based on crop needs?
- Are you willing to pursue additional conservation enhancements?



Rangeland

Consider this checklist. If applicable to your operation, do you currently...

- Use a grazing plan allowing for periods of rest?
- Keep records of livestock/grazing production?
- Manage livestock to maintain and enhance water resources?
- Actively control weeds and invasive plant species?
- Monitor rangeland health?
- Are you willing to pursue additional conservation enhancements?



Conservation Security Program

Pastureland

Consider this checklist. If applicable to your operation, do you currently...

- Use a grazing plan allowing for periods of rest?
- Keep records of livestock/grazing production?
- Monitor grazing land health?
- Actively control weeds and invasive plants?
- Keep records of any pesticides/fertilizers applied?
- Manage livestock to maintain and enhance water resources?
- If irrigated, schedule applications based on plant needs?
- Are you willing to pursue additional conservation enhancements?



Vineyards and Orchards

Consider this checklist. If applicable to your operation, do you currently...

- Control erosion or soil loss?
- Use buffers to protect water sources?
- Regularly test soils and apply fertilizers to nutrient/crop production guides?
- Use integrated pest management (IPM), field scouting, precision spray/low volume application, etc?
- Keep records of fertilizer and pesticide applications?
- If irrigated, schedule applications based on crop needs?
- Are you willing to pursue additional conservation enhancements?

